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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Nurminen, et al Serial No.: To be assigned
Filed: CONCURRENT HERewith Docket No.: 796.425USW1
Title: FORMING A COMMUNICATION NETWORK

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By: 

Name: Josh Helmin

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box Patent Application
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following preliminary amendment into the above-referenced application.

CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1-23 as follows. A clean copy of the amended claims is included below. A marked up copy of the entire claim set is included in Appendix A.

1. (Amended) An arrangement for forming a communications network, wherein the arrangement comprises several modules which transfer relevant information between each other, each module handling the forming of a part of the network to be formed, a set of the modules, selected for forming the communications network, handling together the forming of the communications network.

2. (Amended) An arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the set of the modules is arranged from the bottom module, which forms a physical topology of the network, to the top module, which forms logical connections of the network, so that the modules between the bottom and top module form either physical topologies of the network based on specific technologies, or logical connections of the network based

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on the specific technologies, each module offering resources for the module above, and each module using resources from the module below.

3. (Amended) An arrangement according to claim 2, wherein the distinct bottom module forms physical nodes, conduits, and conduit branches, the conduits containing a number of fibers, wires, or radio links, the physical topology containing line-of-sights information concerning the radio links.

4. (Amended) An arrangement according to claim 2, wherein the distinct top module forms MSC and MSC clusters, and capacities of the logical connections.

5. (Amended) An arrangement according to claim 2, wherein between the bottom and top modules there is the module which forms logical 2 Mbit/s connection of the network.

6. (Amended) An arrangement according to claim 5, wherein the module further forms 2 Mbit/s frame allocation for exchange terminals in a specific BSC, and selects bit templates for each allocation.

7. (Amended) An arrangement according to claim 2, wherein between the bottom and top modules there is the module which forms logical virtual container connections of the network.

8. (Amended) An arrangement according to claim 2, wherein between the bottom and top modules there is the module which forms a physical network topology by selecting the equipment used.

9. (Amended) An arrangement according to claim 2, wherein between the bottom and top modules there is the module which forms a detailed physical network topology in the equipment level by selecting the connections inside equipment, and between equipment.

10. (Amended) An arrangement according to claim 9, wherein the module creates the detailed topology automatically.

11. (Amended) An arrangement according to claim 2, wherein the distinct top module forms logical topology of the broadband connections, and capacities of the broadband connections.

12. (Amended) An arrangement according to claim 2, wherein the distinct top module forms logical topology of the signaling connections, and capacities of the signaling connections.

13. (Amended) An arrangement according to claim 2, wherein the distinct top module forms logical topology of the PSTN connections, and capacities of the PSTN connections.

14. (Amended) An arrangement according to claim 2, wherein the distinct top module forms logical topology of the TETRA connections, and capacities of the TETRA connections.

15. (Amended) An arrangement according to claim 2, wherein the distinct top module forms logical topology of the connections of the 3G network, and capacities of the 3G network connections.

16. (Amended) An arrangement according to claim 2, wherein the distinct top module forms logical connections between logical connections of different technologies used.

17. (Amended) An arrangement according to claim 2, wherein between the bottom and top module there is the module which forms a physical network topology of lightpaths selecting the equipment used.

18. (Amended) An arrangement according to claim 2, wherein between the bottom and top module there is the module which forms the physical network topology of an optical network by selecting the optical cross-connection and WDM equipment used.

19. (Amended) An arrangement according to claim 2, wherein between the bottom and top module there is the module which forms an IP network topology.

20. (Amended) An arrangement according to claim 2, wherein between the bottom and top module there is the module which forms an ATM network topology by creating virtual circuit connections, virtual path connections, and links between adjacent ATM equipment.

21. (Amended) An arrangement according to claim 2, wherein connections of each module are routed separately to the module below, from bottom to top, so that the first module above the bottom module is routed to the bottom module, the second module above the bottom module is routed to the first module above the bottom module, and so on until the top module is routed to the module below.

22. (Amended) A method for forming a communications network, wherein the method comprises the steps of:

establishing parts of tasks, each part containing a specific technology area to form logical connections of the network, or to form a physical topology of the network,

arranging automatically the parts from the bottom part, which forms a physical topology of the network, to the top part, which forms logical connections of the network, so that the parts between the bottom and top part form either physical

topologies of the network based on specific technologies, or logical connections of the network based on specific technologies,

creating topologies and connections in each part,

routing connections of each part separately to the part below, from bottom to top, so that the first part above the bottom part is routed to the bottom part, the second part above the bottom part is routed to the first part above the bottom part, and so on until the top part is routed to the part below.

23. (Amended) A method according to claim 19, wherein the part which automatically forms a detailed physical cellular network topology in the equipment level by selecting the connections inside equipment, and between equipment comprises the steps of:

forming chains or loops of 2Mbit/s logical paths, which paths contain one or more 2Mbit/s frames, from a BSC, clockwise from the view of the BSC,

labeling the 2Mbit/s logical paths clockwise from the view of the BSC, starting from the first frame and ending at the last frame,

connecting first 2Mbit/s logical path into transceivers, and by-passing the other 2Mbit/s logical paths in the first BTS clockwise from the view of the BSC,

connecting second 2Mbit/s logical path into transceivers, and by-passing the other 2Mbit/s logical paths in the second BTS clockwise from the view of the BSC, and so on until

connecting the last 2Mbit/s logical path into transceivers, and by-passing the other 2Mbit/s logical paths in the last BTS clockwise from the view of the BSC.

REMARKS

The above preliminary amendment is made to amend claims 1-23

Applicant respectfully requests that this preliminary amendment be entered into the record prior to calculation of the filing fee and prior to examination and consideration of the above-identified application.

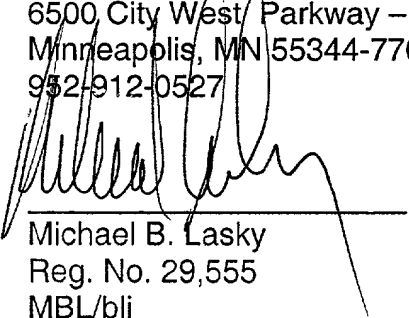
If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicant's attorney of record, Michael B. Lasky at 952-253-4100.

Respectfully submitted,

Altera Law Group, LLC
6500 City West Parkway – Suite 100
Minneapolis, MN 55344-7701
952-912-0527

Date: January 14, 2002

By:



Michael B. Lasky
Reg. No. 29,555
MBL/blj

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Appendix A

Marked Up Version of Entire Claim Set

1. (Amended) An arrangement for forming a communications network, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein the arrangement comprises several modules which transfer relevant information between each other, each module handling the forming of a part of the network to be formed, a set of the modules, selected for forming the communications network, handling together the forming of the communications network.

2. (Amended) An arrangement according to claim 1, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein the set of the modules is arranged from the bottom module, which forms a physical topology of the network, to the top module, which forms logical connections of the network, so that the modules between the bottom and top module form either physical topologies of the network based on specific technologies, or logical connections of the network based on the specific technologies, each module offering resources for the module above, and each module using resources from the module below.

3. (Amended) An arrangement according to claim 2, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein the distinct bottom module forms physical nodes, conduits, and conduit branches, the conduits containing a number of fibers, wires, or radio links, the physical topology containing line-of-sights information concerning the radio links.

4. (Amended) An arrangement according to claim 2, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein the distinct top module forms MSC and MSC clusters, and capacities of the logical connections.

5. (Amended) An arrangement according to claim 2, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein between the bottom and top modules there is the module which forms logical 2 Mbit/s connection of the network.

6. (Amended) An arrangement according to claim 5, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein the module further forms 2 Mbit/s frame allocation for exchange terminals in a specific BSC, and selects bit templates for each allocation.

7. (Amended) An arrangement according to claim 2, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein between the bottom and top modules there is the module which forms logical virtual container connections of the network.

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8. (Amended) An arrangement according to claim 2, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein between the bottom and top modules there is the module which forms a physical network topology by selecting the equipment used.

9. (Amended) An arrangement according to claim 2, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein between the bottom and top modules there is the module which forms a detailed physical network topology in the equipment level by selecting the connections inside equipment, and between equipment.

10. (Amended) An arrangement according to claim 9, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein the module creates the detailed topology automatically.

11. (Amended) An arrangement according to claim 2, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein the distinct top module forms logical topology of the broadband connections, and capacities of the broadband connections.

12. (Amended) An arrangement according to claim 2, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein the distinct top module forms logical topology of the signaling connections, and capacities of the signaling connections.

13. (Amended) An arrangement according to claim 2, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein the distinct top module forms logical topology of the PSTN connections, and capacities of the PSTN connections.

14. (Amended) An arrangement according to claim 2, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein the distinct top module forms logical topology of the TETRA connections, and capacities of the TETRA connections.

15. (Amended) An arrangement according to claim 2, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein the distinct top module forms logical topology of the connections of the 3G network, and capacities of the 3G network connections.

16. (Amended) An arrangement according to claim 2, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein the distinct top module forms logical connections between logical connections of different technologies used.

17. (Amended) An arrangement according to claim 2, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein between the bottom and top module there is the module which forms a physical network topology of lightpaths selecting the equipment used.

18. (Amended) An arrangement according to claim 2, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein between the bottom and top module there is the module which forms the physical network topology of an optical network by selecting the optical cross-connection and WDM equipment used.

19. (Amended) An arrangement according to claim 2, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein between the bottom and top module there is the module which forms an IP network topology.

20. (Amended) An arrangement according to claim 2, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein between the bottom and top module there is the module which forms an ATM network topology by creating virtual circuit connections, virtual path connections, and links between adjacent ATM equipment.

21. (Amended) An arrangement according to claim 2, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein connections of each module are routed separately to the module below, from bottom to top, so that the first module above the bottom module is routed to the bottom module, the second module above the bottom module is routed to the first module above the bottom module, and so on until the top module is routed to the module below.

22. (Amended) A method for forming a communications network, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein the method comprises the steps of:

establishing parts of tasks, each part containing a specific technology area to form logical connections of the network, or to form a physical topology of the network,

arranging automatically the parts from the bottom part, which forms a physical topology of the network, to the top part, which forms logical connections of the network, so that the parts between the bottom and top part form either physical topologies of the network based on specific technologies, or logical connections of the network based on specific technologies,

creating topologies and connections in each part,

routing connections of each part separately to the part below, from bottom to top, so that the first part above the bottom part is routed to the bottom part, the second part above the bottom part is routed to the first part above the bottom part, and so on until the top part is routed to the part below.

23. (Amended) A method according to claim 19, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein the part which automatically forms a detailed physical cellular network topology in the equipment level by selecting the connections inside equipment, and between equipment comprises the steps of:

forming chains or loops of 2Mbit/s logical paths, which paths contain one or more 2Mbit/s frames, from a BSC, clockwise from the view of the BSC,

labeling the 2Mbit/s logical paths clockwise from the view of the BSC, starting from the first frame and ending at the last frame,

connecting first 2Mbit/s logical path into transceivers, and by-passing the other 2Mbit/s logical paths in the first BTS clockwise from the view of the BSC,

connecting second 2Mbit/s logical path into transceivers, and by-passing the other 2Mbit/s logical paths in the second BTS clockwise from the view of the BSC, and so on until

connecting the last 2Mbit/s logical path into transceivers, and by-passing the other 2Mbit/s logical paths in the last BTS clockwise from the view of the BSC.